

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 2, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

On September 2, 2021, New York Governor Hochul officially requested an Emergency Declaration for the State of New York as a result of the severe impact the storm had. As Members of Congress representing communities directly impacted by the severe winds, heavy rains, and record-breaking flooding, we urge you to issue such a declaration as soon as possible.

Last night, our constituents experienced historic flooding and winds from the remnants of Post-Tropical Depression Ida. As a result, thousands of New Yorkers woke up this morning with flooded homes, damaged vehicles, and an inability to access critical public infrastructure like public transportation and hospitals. Tragically, this storm also took numerous lives, with still potentially more people who have not been accounted for. The impact of Ida will also leave us with many significant health and economic strain as the people of our states work to find a safe path to recovery in an already difficult time.

New York State has deployed significant resources in response to Ida across the state Department of Transportation, Thruway Authority, Department of Environmental Conservation, Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Department of Public Service, New York State Police, New York Power Authority, New York State Canal Corporation, the Canal Corporation, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Port Authority and Department of Financial Services. Substantial funding will be required in infrastructure repair and debris removal costs that exceed both the per capita threshold and the Statewide threshold.

As we continue to face the COVID-19 pandemic and the surge in cases of the Delta variant, it is critical that everyone who calls New York home has reliable electricity, telephone, and internet service. Combined with the challenges already facing municipal budgets in both states, and ongoing recovery from several major disasters in recent years and today's co-existing pandemic, the extensive damages caused by Ida pose a serious threat to New York's economic recovery. Federal assistance is urgently needed.

On behalf of our constituents, we respectfully urge you to grant Governor Hochul's requests and immediately deploy federal resources to support the response to Post-Tropical Depression Ida.

We stand ready to work together to address this crisis and thank you in advance for your prompt consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D.
Member of Congress



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



Nicole Malliotakis
Member of Congress



Hakeem Jeffries
Member of Congress



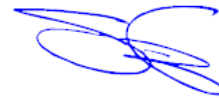
Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



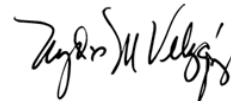
Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress



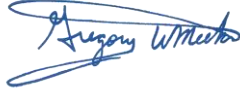
Elise Stefanik
Member of Congress



Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress



Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress

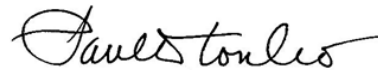
Nydia Velásquez
Member of Congress



Grace Meng
Member of Congress



Ritchie Torres
Member of Congress



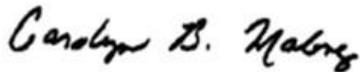
Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



Antonio Delgado
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress



Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress



Lee Zeldin
Member of Congress



Mondaire Jones
Member of Congress



John Katko
Member of Congress



Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Rice', with a stylized, flowing script.

Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress

Cc: The Honorable Deanne Criswell
Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C St SW
Washington, DC 20024